News from the Wyoming Department of Health

Monday, November 20, 2006

Final Wyoming West Nile Numbers Reported

CHEYENNE ó The final count of laboratory-confirmed West Nile virus infections in Wyoming residents was 65 this year, according to the Wyoming Department of Health.

The deaths this year of one Fremont County man and one Goshen County man were linked to West Nile virus. Forty-five of the cases were reported from Fremont County. There were nine cases in Goshen County, three in Platte County, two each in Big Horn, Washakie and Natrona counties, and one in Lincoln County.

About 25 percent of this year access involved the more serious West Nile neuroinvasive disease (meningitis or encephalitis), with about 25 percent of total cases requiring hospitalization.

The reported dates for the onset of symptoms began July 1 and ended October 2 with a peak date of August 15. Cases were evenly split between men and women, and ages of those infected ranged from 10 to 88.

There were 12 West Nile virus human cases with 2 deaths in 2005; 10 human cases with no deaths in 2004; and 393 human cases with 12 deaths in 2003.

More information on West Nile virus is available on the web at www.badskeeter.org or by calling 1-877-WYO-BITE.

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